

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 487952 AHB	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;">FOR FURTHER ACTION</div> <div>see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</div> </div>	
International application No. PCT/NZ2003/000179	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 13 August 2003	(Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 14 August 2002
Applicant FLETCHER BUILDING HOLDINGS LIMITED et al.		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of **7** sheets.

☐ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. ☒ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box II).

4. With regard to the title, ☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract, ☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. **1B**

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ None of the figures

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos :
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos :
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos :
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

See Supplemental Box

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1-45, 50, 54-57

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

A closure assembly (40) of an opening in a building including at least two mutually pivoted panels (41, 42, 43) mounted with the mutual pivot axis (44) at least substantially vertical. The panels are movable between a closed condition whereby the at least two panels at least substantially in mutual alignment provide at least a partial closure of the opening in or substantially parallel to the plane of the opening, and an opened condition whereby the at least two panels, mutually disaligned by having pivoted mutually towards each other, are substantially clear of the plane of the opening.

A proximate panel (41) is pivoted by a vertical pivot axis substantially in the plane of the opening at adjacent a vertical periphery of the opening (45). The distal region of distal panel (42) is supported by at least one supporting runner. The supporting runner is guided by a support track (51) which is skewed with respect to the plane of the opening and has the effect of spacing the supporting runner out of the plane of the opening at the vertical periphery.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ2003/000179

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
Int. Cl. ⁷ : E05D 15/26, 15/58; E06B 3/48		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) WPAT: IPC E05D 15/04, 15/26, 15/56, 15/58, E06B 3/32, 3/48 & keywords (skew, angled, oblique) & like terms		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	FR 2483000 A (CURIAL SA ETS) 27 November 1981 Page 3, line 36 to page 5, line 7; figures 1-5	1-44, 57
X	EP 152533 A (INDUSTRIEBAU BÖNNIGHEIM GMBH & CO) 28 August 1985 Figure 2-3	1-44, 57
X	GB 367542 A (EDUCATIONAL SUPPLY ASSOCIATION LTD) 25 February 1932 Page 3, line 17 to page 4, line 3, figures 1-6	54, 55
X	EP 1002921 A (LINDPOINTNER TORE) 24 May 2000 Whole document	54, 55
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex		
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 28 November 2003		Date of mailing of the international search report 15 JAN 2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929		Authorized officer VENKAT IYER Telephone No : (02) 6283 2144

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ2003/000179

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4846245 A (PAGLIARO et al.) 11 July 1989 Whole document	54, 55
A	Derwent DWPI Online abstract Accession No. 98-142031/13, JP 10018691 A (ORISU) 20 January 1998 Whole abstract	1-45, 50, 54-57
A	WO 0208553 A (FLETCHER BUILDING HOLDINGS LTD) 31 January 2002 Whole document	1-45, 50, 54-57

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of Boxes I to VIII is not sufficient)

Continuation of Box No: II

The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. In coming to this conclusion the International Searching Authority has found that there are different inventions as follows:

1. Claims 1-45, 50, 54-57 are directed to a multi-fold panel assembly, utilising a support track that is skewed outwardly from the plane of the panels in their closed condition such that the panels can be moved to a position substantially clear of the plane of the opening. It is considered that the use of a skewed support track in a multi-fold wing comprises a first potential "special technical feature".
2. Claims 46-49, 51-53 are directed to a guiding runner for supporting a lower distal region of a distal panel of a multi-fold panel, comprising a runner in a track and a link with two parallel pivot axes that can move from being aligned with the tracking direction to a position in which the pivot axis most proximal to the panel is spaced from the tracking direction. It is considered that a guide runner with such a link arrangement comprises a second potential "special technical feature".

Since the above mentioned groups of claims do not share any of the technical features identified, a "technical relationship" between the inventions, as defined in PCT rule 13.2 does not exist. Accordingly the international application does not relate to one invention or to a single inventive concept, a priori.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/NZ2003/000179

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member	
FR	2483000	NONE	
EP	0152533	DE	3405897
GB	367542	NONE	
EP	1002921	NONE	
US	4846245	NONE	
JP	10018691	NONE	
WO	0208553	AU	84551/01
		NZ	505958
END OF ANNEX			